

IN THE ABSTRACT:

Please replace the existing abstract with the following new abstract as set forth in marked-up form below.

Q1 A fingerprint collating device and a fingerprint collating method which can prevent an illicit use of fingerprint. The fingerprint collating device includes fingerprint reader for reading a user's fingerprint to create read fingerprint information, and to create read ~~hysteresis~~history information indicating that the read fingerprint information has been created, read ~~hysteresis~~history storage for storing the read ~~hysteresis~~history information, and collator for collating the read fingerprint information with the registered fingerprint information to effect personal authentication and output a result of authentication when the read ~~hysteresis~~history information is stored in the read ~~hysteresis~~history storage.
